

Empowering a generation of India's dreamers

Ratan Tata's life reminds us that true leadership is measured not just by one's achievements, but by one's ability to care for the most vulnerable

It has been a month since Ratan Tataji left us. From bustling cities and towns to villages, his absence is deeply felt across every segment of society. Seasoned industrialists, budding entrepreneurs, and hardworking professionals mourn his loss. Those passionate about the environment and devoted to philanthropy are equally saddened. His absence has been deeply felt not only across the nation but also around the world.

For the youth, Ratan Tata was an inspiration, a reminder that dreams are worth pursuing and that success can coexist with compassion as well as humility. For others, he represented the finest traditions of Indian enterprise and a steadfast commitment to the values of integrity, excellence, and service. Under his leadership, the Tata Group ascended new heights, embodying respect, honesty, and credibility worldwide. Despite this, he wore his achievements lightly, with humility and kindness.

Ratan Tata's unwavering support for the dreams of others was one of his most defining qualities. In recent years, he became known for mentoring India's Startup ecosystem, investing in many promising ventures. He understood the hopes and aspirations of young entrepreneurs and recognised the potential they had to shape India's future. By backing their efforts, he empowered a generation of dreamers to take bold risks and push boundaries.

This has gone a long way in creating a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship, which I am confident will continue to positively impact India for decades to come.

He constantly championed excellence, urging Indian enterprises to set global benchmarks. This vision, I hope, will inspire our future leaders to make India synonymous with world-class quality.

His greatness was not restricted to the boardroom or helping fellow humans. His compassion extended to all living beings. His deep love for animals was well-known and he supported every possible effort focused on animal welfare. He often shared photos of his dogs, who were as much a part of his life as any business venture. His life was a reminder to us all that true leadership is measured not just by one's achievements, but by one's ability to care for the most vulnerable.



Narendra Modi

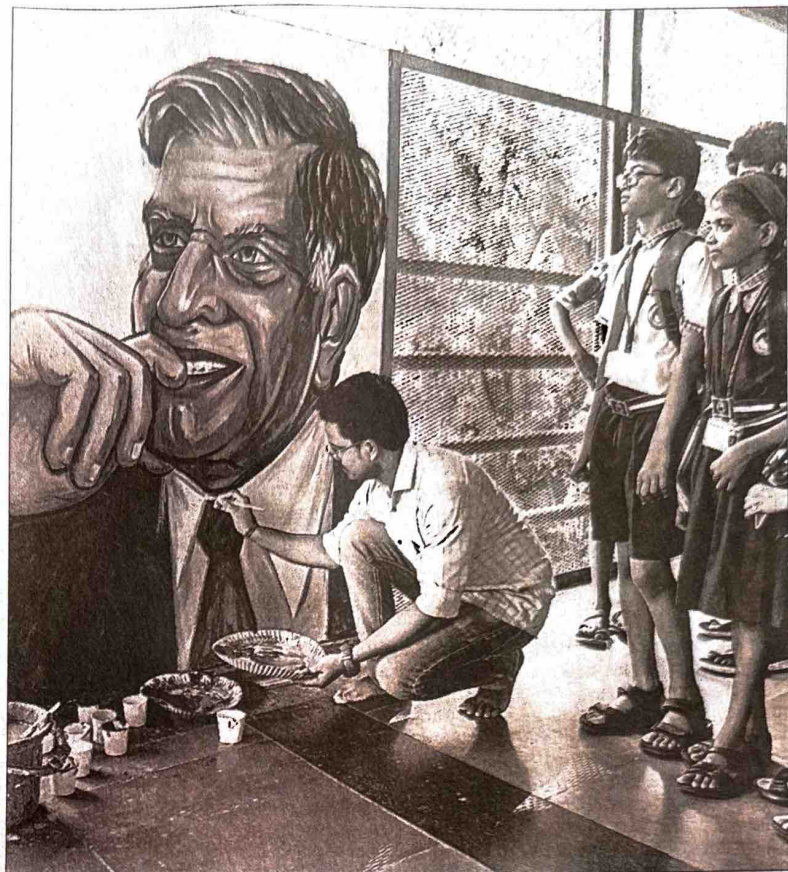
For crores of Indians, Ratan Tata's patriotism shone brightest in times of crisis. His swift reopening of the iconic Taj Hotel in Mumbai after the 26/11 terror attacks was a rallying call to the nation — India stands united, refusing to yield to terrorism.

On a personal note, I had the privilege of knowing him very closely over the years. We worked closely in Gujarat, where he invested extensively.

Just a few weeks ago, I was in Vadodra with the President of the Government of Spain, Pedro Sánchez, and we jointly inaugurated an aircraft complex where C-295 aircraft would be made. It was Ratan Tata who started working on this. Needless to say, Ratan Tata's presence was greatly missed.

I remember Ratan Tataji as a man of letters — he would frequently write to me on various issues, be it matters of governance, expressing appreciation for government support, or sending congratulatory wishes after electoral victories.

Our close interactions continued when I moved to the Centre and he remained a committed partner in our nation-building efforts. Ratan Tata's support for the Swachh Bharat Mission was particularly close to my heart. He was a vocal advocate of this mass movement, understanding that cleanliness, hygiene, and



Ratan Tata remains alive in the lives he touched and the dreams he nurtured. Generations will be grateful to him for making India a better, kinder, and more hopeful place

ANI

FOR THE YOUTH, RATAN TATA WAS AN INSPIRATION, A REMINDER THAT DREAMS ARE WORTH PURSUING AND THAT SUCCESS CAN COEXIST WITH COMPASSION AS WELL AS HUMILITY. FOR OTHERS, HE REPRESENTED THE FINEST TRADITIONS OF INDIAN ENTERPRISE AND A COMMITMENT TO THE VALUES OF INTEGRITY, EXCELLENCE, AND SERVICE.

sanitation are vital for India's progress. I still remember his heartfelt video message for the Swachh Bharat Mission's 10th anniversary at the start of October. It was among his final public appearances.

Another cause close to his heart was health care and, especially, the fight against cancer. I recall the programme in Assam two years ago, where we jointly inaugurated various cancer hospitals in the state. In his remarks at that time, he categorically stated that he wished to dedicate his final years to health care. His efforts to make health and cancer care accessible and affordable were rooted in a profound empathy for those battling diseases, believing that a just society was the one that stood by its most vulnerable.

As we remember him today, we are reminded of the society he envisioned — where business can serve as a force for good, where every individual's potential is valued, and where progress is measured in the well-being and happiness of all. He remains alive in the lives he touched and the dreams he nurtured. Generations will be grateful to him for making India a better, kinder, and more hopeful place.

Narendra Modi is Prime Minister of India